

**AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT:**

Replace the abstract originally provided on the cover sheet of the PCT application with the following new abstract. A new abstract numbered page 25 is enclosed for the last page of the application following the claims.

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A body protecting device for wearing by a user comprising an array of energy absorbing cells, wherein each cell comprises a tube, and wherein substantially each tube has a side wall which is near or adjacent to the side wall of at least another tube, and wherein substantially each tube is configured such that the orientation of the tube is substantially maintained when a load is applied parallel to the axis of the tube.